

FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of fire department operations. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and fire suppression tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, performing rescue work, and driving and operating fire department vehicles. Employees of this class are also responsible for the maintenance of fire apparatus, fire department equipment, the fire station, and for completing records as assigned. Employees of this class perform duties under the supervision of and have work reviewed by a Fire Captain. This class reports to and ranks immediately below that of Fire Captain.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Selects shortest available route to the fire or emergency scene and drives fire apparatus while operating sirens, lights, and other warning devices. Secures oneself to apparatus in assigned location. Evaluates navigational problems such as narrow alleys, blind hallways, or structural impasses and determines a means of entrance. Communicates with dispatcher and other fire vehicles using two-way radio. Places apparatus at fire scene according to instructions of a commanding officer. Assists in positioning additional arriving apparatus verbally or using hand signals. Observes and responds to changes in fireground conditions, notifying the officer in charge. Listens and follows orders from officers at the fire scene under conditions of stress, noise, and confusion. Maintains awareness of other firefighters' efforts and assists them to ensure safe and coordinated performance.

Locates and extinguishes fire source. Observes fireground for fire victims, water supplies, and fire exposures. Recognizes HAZMAT symbols to identify flammable or hazardous materials. Recognizes internal and external fire exposures and takes measures to protect from fire extension. Makes hose connections to hydrants or standpipes and controls water flow. Tightens or loosens hose connections and couplings to pumps, nozzles, and appliances. Carries charged, empty, and rolled up hose lines up stairs or ladders. Pulls booster hose from reel and advances to fire scene. Operates pump from self contained water source and supplies adequate pressure at the nozzle. Performs salvage and overhaul operations in order to protect property from damage and to complete fire extinguishment. Locates hot spots after fire is extinguished

to be sure the fire does not rekindle. Removes burning furniture from buildings to reduce fire and smoke damage. Clamps sprinkler heads, drains, rolls, or folds hose sections and loads on apparatus after fire is extinguished. Cleans and stores equipment upon return to fire station.

Drives emergency vehicles to the emergency scene to provide medical care and/or to assist with the transfer of the injured to a hospital or emergency care facility. Responds to medical emergency calls. Performs emergency medical services. Operates monitors and other equipment for emergency medical services. Notifies dispatcher to call for additional medical help when needed. Treats range of injuries at the scene using advanced first aid and emergency care techniques. Inspects victim for signs of injury, consciousness, and breathing to determine the nature and extent of the injury or illness. Examines injured person for medical alert tag to determine if special treatment is necessary. Obtains a comprehensive drug history on the patient and administers medication at the emergency scene. Observes and documents the effects of medication given to individuals. Keeps informed on any specific signs or circumstances under which it is not appropriate to administer a drug to a patient. Reports own or other's injuries to superiors.

Performs search and rescue operations in order to locate and remove trapped victims from burning buildings, vehicles, or enclosed spaces. Uses extricator, K-12 saw, pry cars, come-along, pneumatic cutting tool, or porta-power to cut or pry open vehicles or machinery. Moves heavy objects to gain access to trapped victims or bodies; locates and digs to free victims trapped in tunnels, pipes, or sewers. Searches rooms for trapped persons by feeling for victims, obstructions, holes, and areas of excessive heat. Carries or assists victims by using slings, chairs, or stretchers.

Performs regular maintenance of equipment such as fire pump, aerial ladders, self-contained breathing apparatus, and emergency medical equipment to ensure they are in proper working order. Conducts required safety tests of fire department apparatus and equipment to ensure compliance with departmental operating standards. Inspects fire apparatus, emergency lighting equipment, Air Pak, station power generator, and ground and aerial ladders to determine if repair or maintenance is needed. Inspects all fire apparatus tools, communications equipment, hoselines, and fire extinguishers for damage. Inspects personal turn-out equipment and clothing. Records equipment and apparatus missing or needing repair or replacement.

Participates in training and drills. Learns and maintains proficiency in fireground operations, purpose of all equipment and alarm systems, principles of fire behavior, and structural components of buildings. Observes and repeats procedures demonstrated by training instructor. Practices with apparatus and equipment to increase and maintain proficiency. Studies direct routes, location of streets, water mains, and hydrants in the area

surrounding the station.

Provides for the maintenance and upkeep of station house and grounds. Cleans rooms and furnishings at the station and maintains appearance of apparatus. Places turnout gear and firefighting equipment in readiness. Locks station doors and windows to secure valuable items from theft, vandalism, and damage. Maintains adequate office, first aid, and cleaning supplies. Assists visitors who seek help.

Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Applicant must possess one of the following: high school diploma, high school equivalency certificate, high school transcript, affidavit from the issuing high school, associate's or bachelor's degree, or college transcript, any one of which must indicate that graduation has occurred or a degree awarded. A certification of completion shall not be sufficient to substitute for a diploma or equivalency certificate.

Must possess a valid driver's license.

Must not be less than twenty-one (21) years of age.